

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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WHITE HOUSE: MR. SONNENFELDT

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R 070100 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 064730

E. O. 11562 ADS

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL CONSULATES

REF: MOSCOW 1905

1. OUR INITIAL REACTION TO KORNIYENKO'S PROPOSAL ON NEW
NSULATES IS POSITIVE IN PRINCIPLE. NEW YORK IS THE
LOGICAL PLACE OF THE NEXT SOVIET CONSULATE AND SOVIET
CONSULAR REPRESENTATION THERE WOULD BE TO THE ADVANTAGE OF
BOTH COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS WE WOULD
PREFER KIEV TO ODESSA.

2. ACCORDINGLY, CHARGE SHOULD INFORM KORNIYENKO THAT THE
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DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO AGREE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOVIET CONSULATE IN NEW YORK IN EXCHANGE FOR SOVIET AGREEMENT TO AN AMERICAN CONSULATE IN KIEV. CHARGE SHOULD INFORM KORNIYENKO THAT DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT IS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE AT THIS STAGE OF OUR RELATIONS FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO HAVE A CONSULATE IN OUR LARGEST CITY. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT ENVISION ENOUGH CONSULAR BUSINESS FOR US IN ODESSA TO JUSTIFY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSULATE THERE. KIEV, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN THE THIRD RANKING SOVIET CITY, AFTER MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD, IN TERMS OF AMERICAN TOURISM AND OFFICIAL VISITORS AND RELATED CONSULAR PROBLEMS. MOREOVER, IT IS THE CAPITAL OF THE

REPUBLIC WHICH GENERATES APPROXIMATELY FIFTY PER CENT OF OUR SOVIET VISA APPLICANTS, AND IN GENERAL CONSULAR BUSINESS THE UKRAINE IS SECOND ONLY TO THE RSFSR.

3. IF EXCHANGE OF CONSULATES IN NEW YORK AND KIEV IS ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIET GOVERNMENT, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS AT AN EARLY DATE FOR AN AGREEMENT ON CONSULAR DISTRICTS.

4. CHARGE SHOULD NOT ENGAGE IN ANY DISCUSSION WITH KORNIYENKO ON ALTERNATIVE SITES FOR CONSULATES. IF KORNIYENKO VOLUNTEERS COMMENTS ABOUT ALTERNATIVES, CHARGE SHOULD SAY THAT HE WILL REPORT KORNIYENKO'S COMMENTS TO THE DEPARTMENT BUT THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE LIMITED TO RESPONDING TO THE INFORMAL SOVIET OFFER OF ODESSA FOR NEW YORK WITH OUR INFORMAL COUNTER-OFFER OF NEW YORK FOR KIEV.
ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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